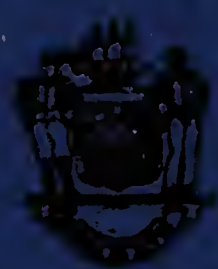


44/7/3.
1273.

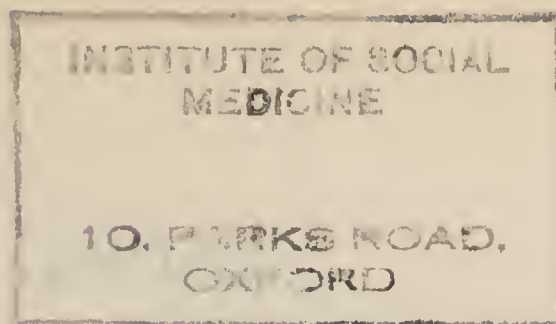


County Borough of Tynemouth.

THIRTY-EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
Medical Inspection of School
Children.

1946.

MOORE SHIELDS:
J. W. MOORE LTD., CHARLOTTE STREET.
189647



County Borough of Tynemouth.

THIRTY-EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
Medical Inspection of School
Children.

1946.

NORTH SHIELDS:
J. W. MOORE LTD., CHARLOTTE STREET.
189647

INDEX.

	PAGE.
Co-ordination	4
Defective Vision and Squint	6
Diphtheria Immunisation	4
Ear Defects	6
Following Up	5
Handicapped Pupils	8
Infectious Diseases	6
Lovaine House Special Day School	9
Lovaine House Special Day School—Report of Head Mistress	10
Maladjusted Children	8
Minor Ailments	4
Minor Eye Defects—External	5
Modified Routine Medical Inspections	4
Nose and Throat Defects	6
Nursery Schools	12
Orthopædic and Postural Defects	7
Orthoptic Training and Operative Treatment for Squint ...	6
Provision of Dinners for Payment	4
Provision of Free Dinners	4
Provision of Milk Meals	4
Ringworm Scalp	4
Scabies (Itch)	5
School Dental Service—Report of School Dental Officer ...	7
Speech Defects—Report of Speech Therapist	11
Statistical Tables	13-16
Surprise Cleanliness Surveys	5
Tynemouth Open-Air Day School	8
Tynemouth Open-Air Day School—Report of Head Mistress	9

SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
EDUCATION OFFICES,
SOUTH PRESTON VILLA,
NORTH SHIELDS,
5TH MARCH, 1947.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Thirty-Eighth Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service, for the year ended 31st December 1946.

The work for the year under review has again been carried out by Dr. Robert M. White (Deputy Medical Officer of Health) and Dr. Margaret B. Steel (Maternity and Child Welfare Officer) to both of whom I record my appreciation.

As it has not been possible to fill the existing vacancy on the medical staff, the work of the School Medical Service has, of necessity, been somewhat curtailed and confined mainly to treatment, more particularly, of nose, throat and ear defects (including operative treatment); defective vision and squint (including the supply of spectacles, orthoptic training and operative treatment for squint); minor ailments. Special attention has also been given to the requirements of handicapped pupils. Cleanliness surveys and modified routine inspections have been conducted by the School Nurses who, where necessary, referred any child for examination by the Medical Officer at his inspection clinic, which was conducted on two sessions per week.

As a result of a depleted staff it was not found possible to conduct routine medical inspections in all the schools (only 234 entrants attending three schools in the Borough were examined).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Honorary Surgeons and Staffs of the Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, the Newcastle Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children, Newcastle upon Tyne, for undertaking the operative treatment for nose, throat and ear cases; also the Honorary Surgeons and Staff of the Newcastle upon Tyne Eye Hospital, where children are referred from the School Clinic for further advice, orthoptic training and operative treatment of squint. My thanks are also due to the Staff of the Sunderland Child Guidance Clinic for undertaking the examination and treatment, where necessary, of the maladjusted children referred to the Clinic from this area.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the School Medical Service Sub-Committee, the Education Secretary, the Head Teachers, the School Medical Service Staff and all others concerned with school medical work for their support during the year.

R. H. DAWSON,

*Medical Officer of Health and
Chief School Medical Officer.*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

CO-ORDINATION.

Co-ordination with the other health services in the Borough continued throughout the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 56 school children received the full course of inoculations ; 9 received a first injection only and 19 received a supplementary injection, having had the full course of injections in previous years.

MILK AND DINNERS.

PROVISION OF MILK MEALS.

Milk is now supplied free to *all* school children who desire it, the permitted quantity being one-third-of-a-pint per child per day. The quantity will be increased to two-thirds-of-a-pint per day for each child when the supply position permits.

According to a one-day summary made in October 1946, with a school population of 7,419 (excluding the Tynemouth High School and Special Schools), the number of pupils taking milk was 7,211 or 97%.

PROVISION OF FREE DINNERS.

208 School children remained on the Free Meals list at the beginning of the year and 173 were added later, making a total of 381. At the end of December 1946 there were 377 children on the list. Dinners were supplied on 254 days, the average attendance being 243 over a period of 12 months.

PROVISION OF DINNERS FOR PAYMENT.

During December 1946 the average number of dinners supplied daily for payment at all Schools was 3,700.

MODIFIED ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

1,135 Intermediates, 600 Leavers and 1 boy in another age group were inspected by the School Nurses ; of these 291 were referred to the Acting School Medical Officer for further advice or treatment.

MINOR AILMENTS.

7,486 Attendances were made at the School Clinics for the treatment of minor ailments by the School Nurses, as compared with 9,122 and 11,923 in 1945 and 1944 respectively.

RINGWORM SCALP.

There was only 1 boy with ringworm of the scalp and he received X-ray treatment.

SCABIES (Itch).

The number of cases of scabies treated at the School Clinic has gradually decreased during the past five years.

The following comparative table shews the number of cases treated over the period mentioned :—

<u>Year.</u>	<i>Number of cases of Scabies treated at the School Clinic.</i>			
1942	572
1943	489
1944	353
1945	227
1946	136

MINOR EYE DEFECTS—External.

94 Cases received treatment at the School Clinic as compared with 78 and 151 in 1945 and 1944 respectively.

SURPRISE CLEANLINESS SURVEYS.

The following figures shew the results of the first and second cleanliness surveys of girls only, which were carried out by the School Nurses at the Schools.

		<u>HEAD.</u>			
	<u>Number</u> <u>Examined.</u>	<u>Clean.</u>	<u>Few</u> <u>Nits.</u>	<u>Nits.</u>	<u>Vermin.</u>
1st Survey	... 3,698	3,088	448	152	10
		83.5%	12.1%	4.1%	0.3%
2nd Survey	... 3,448	2,946	397	102	3
		85.4%	11.5%	3.0%	0.1%

These percentages compare very favourably with those for the year 1945 when 83.45 per cent and 84.35 per cent were recorded as clean in the first and second surveys respectively.

FOLLOWING UP.

The School Nurses followed up 1,871 cases during the year, and in the course of this work made 1,631 examinations in the schools and 1,094 home visits.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

An extract from the summary of the Head Teachers' Weekly Returns of children absent from school on Account of Infectious or Other Diseases for the past ten years is as follows:—

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Years.</u>									
	<u>1937.</u>	<u>1938.</u>	<u>1939.</u>	<u>1940.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1946.</u>
Scarlet										
Fever ...	128	189	54	16	12	51	64	124	77	48
Diphtheria	74	118	49	59	87	119	45	69	47	32
Measles ...	369	624	20	668	113	384	196	456	151	401
German										
Measles	125	121	10	105	4	9	31	621	17	50
Whooping										
Cough...	237	72	30	7	75	174	78	203	85	136
Chicken										
Pox ...	470	285	402	184	210	127	470	289	251	174
Mumps ...	503	41	69	26	314	474	75	141	503	20
Ringworm	10	13	13	7	11	5	6	7	4	2
Impetigo	102	89	44	73	103	69	64	81	83	57
Scabies ...	144	228	136	309	667	407	236	171	118	46
Verminous										
Conditions	5	7	9	8	4	19	11	16	17	12

From the above it will be seen that there was an increase in the number of cases of measles, german measles and whooping cough during the year under review, as compared with those recorded in the year 1945.

It is, however, pleasing to note that there has been a notable decline in the incidence of diphtheria and scarlet fever over a period of years.

EAR DEFECTS.

2 Children received operative treatment for ear defects—1 curettage of aural granulations and 1 aural polypus.

NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

278 Primary and Secondary School Children, as compared with 225 during the year 1945, received operative treatment for the removal of tonsils and adenoids—150 at the Hospital for Sick Children, Newcastle upon Tyne; 82 at the Newcastle Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital; 46 at the Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, North Shields.

DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

33 Children were referred to the Newcastle upon Tyne Eye Hospital for further advice or treatment.

ORTHOPTIC TRAINING AND OPERATIVE TREATMENT FOR SQUINT.

57 Children attended from this area and made 581 attendances at the Orthoptic Department of the Newcastle upon Tyne Eye Hospital.

21 Attended once or twice weekly for exercises ; 20 attended for occlusion ; 16 attended monthly as pre-treatments or prior to discharge.

11 Children were discharged for the following reasons :—

1, cured with treatment only ; 3, cured with treatment and operation ; 4, cosmetic result after operation ; 1, no improvement ; 2, no co-operation.

During the year 9 operations were performed.

ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

11 Children received treatment for the following defects :—

Brodie's abscess 1 ; dyschondroplasia 1 ; flat-foot 1 ; fractures 3 ; hammer toes 1 ; osteitis 1 ; Perthe's disease 1 , spastic diplegia 1 ; talipes varus 1.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

I have pleasure in submitting the Twenty-Second Annual Report on School Dental Inspection and Treatment :—

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER, FOR THE YEAR 1946.

"I have pleasure in submitting my Ninth Annual Report on the School Dental Inspections and Treatment for the year ending December 31st 1946, this being the Twenty-Second Annual Report.

Full statistics relating to the inspections and treatment during the year will be found elsewhere in this publication and the following is a brief survey of clinical work undertaken.

The present scheme of at least one annual dental inspection at each Primary School has been maintained and the satisfactory total of 5,869 children examined, with an acceptance rate of 77.1 per cent was achieved.

By the courtesy of the Medical Superintendent, general anaesthetics were administered at Preston Hospital to cases requiring special or extensive treatment and a total of 381 children received this service.

Conservation work for the preservation of both the temporary and permanent dentitions was proceeded with on as large a scale as possible. A special effort is now being made to retain all temporary teeth for the maximum period and a total of 765 various dressings were inserted for this purpose.

Many forms of dental treatment, not specified in the statistics, were undertaken, including cases for the correction of misplaced teeth, several of these patients being referred to the Newcastle upon Tyne Dental Hospital for the fitting of special appliances. Other special treatment included 145 cases requiring scaling and cleaning of the teeth and numerous treatments of gum infections by massage and other methods.

Pupils from the Tynemouth Municipal High School made 277 attendances at the Clinic, when 106 Extractions, 177 Fillings and 57 Other Operations were completed.

An inspection was made of the pupils in attendance at the Open-Air School and Lovaine House Special School and a total of 116 children were examined. During the year, 71 Open-Air School and Lovaine House Special School children attended the Clinic for dental treatment.

In concluding this brief survey I again tender my sincere thanks to the School Medical Department, the Head Teachers and their Staffs and to the School Dental Nurse, Miss H. Gray, for their valued assistance during the year.

(Signed) RICHARD W. ESSENHIGH,
SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER."

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The number of children in the following categories of "Handicapped Pupils" were receiving their education in special schools at the end of the year under review.

Blind Pupils ...	... 1	in a residential school.
Deaf Pupils ...	... 4	in residential schools.
Delicate Pupils	...77	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and 1 in a residential school.

Educationally

Sub-normal Pupils	36	in the Lovaine House Special Day School and 1 in a residential school.
-------------------	----	------------------------------------------------------------------------

Epileptic Pupils	... 1	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.
------------------	-------	---------------------------------------

Maladjusted Pupils	... 1	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.
--------------------	-------	---------------------------------------

Physically Handicapped Pupils	... 4	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and 2 in residential schools.
-------------------------------	-------	--------------------------------------------------------------------

Pupils suffering from Speech Defects	...	(See report by Speech Therapist on page 11 of this publication).
--------------------------------------	-----	------------------------------------------------------------------

Pupils suffering from Multiple Disabilities	9	attending Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and 8 attending the Lovaine House Special Day School.
---------------------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

MALADJUSTED CHILDREN.

In addition to the 1 child who was admitted to the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School 3 children were referred to the Sunderland Child Guidance Clinic for examination ; 2 of these were entered on the waiting list for treatment at the Child Guidance Clinic and it was advised that the third child should be sent to an Approved School.

TYNEMOUTH OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL.

105 Special inspections and re-inspections were made by the Medical Officer. 95 Minor ailments, and 6 errors of refraction were treated. 1 Operation for a mastoid and 2 operations for tonsils and adenoids were performed.

LOVAINE HOUSE SPECIAL DAY SCHOOL.

14 Special inspections and re-inspections were made by the Medical Officer at the School Clinic also 35 children were re-examined mentally at the School. 9 Children were reported by the Education Authority to the Committee for the Care of the Mentally Defective. 79 Minor ailments, 3 errors of refraction and 1 case of tonsils and adenoids were treated.

I have pleasure in submitting the Reports of the Head Mistress, Miss M. A. Peacock, upon the work of the two Special Schools.

TYNEMOUTH OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL.

REPORT FOR 1946.

"A year of quiet, steady progress can be reported for 1946. Once more, poor weather conditions were against much out-door work during the year. This meant that much of our time was spent in the class rooms, to the disappointment of all concerned.

During the year, 49 children, 19 boys and 30 girls were admitted, and a total of 47 children, 26 boys and 21 girls, were discharged. The average number of children on the roll for the year was 96, and the average attendance 76, or 79.1 per cent. The attendance figures are disappointing, and due, chiefly, to a certain amount of slackness on the part of a few parents, who fail to realise that regular attendance is necessary if progress is to be made in health and education.

The ailments of the children admitted during the year may be classified as follows :—

Admitted by the Acting School Medical Officer :—

Debility, with or without accompanying defects	...	28
Bronchitis and/or Asthma	... ..	7
T.B. Ankle	... ..	1
Former laceration of leg, resulting in lameness	...	1
Dermatitis of Scalp	... ..	1
Congenital Heart Disease	... ..	1
Hæmophilia	... ..	1
Photophobia	... ..	1
Osteitis, right Femur	... ..	1
Maladjustment	... ..	1
Dwarfism	... ..	1
	Total ...	<u>44</u>

Admitted by the Tuberculosis Officer :—

Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	... ..	3
T. B. Contact	... ..	1
Chronic Bronchitis and T.B. Glands	... ..	1
	TOTAL ...	<u>5</u>

The children discharged by the Acting School Medical Officer may be divided into the following groups :—

Discharged as fit after medical examination	31
Left the district	3
Transferred to Special School	1
Transferred to an Approved School	1
Unfit to attend any school	2
Parents' or Guardians' request	4
TOTAL ...	42

The following particulars refer to children discharged by the Tuberculosis Officer :—

Transferred to Modern Secondary Schools	3
Left the district	2
TOTAL ...	5

Routine arrangements with regard to meals, conveyance of children, bathing and weighing were carried out as usual. Minor ailments received attention at the School Clinic. The School Nurse visited us several times each week to follow up cases.

The Acting School Medical Officer and the Tuberculosis Officer paid visits at intervals to examine children, such examinations being not quite so frequent as formerly.

In concluding this report, I should like to express my appreciation of the loyal and willing co-operation I have had throughout the year from all connected with the school.

(Signed) MARGARET A. PEACOCK."

LOVAINE HOUSE SPECIAL DAY SCHOOL.

REPORT FOR 1946.

"We began the year with 45 children on the roll. During the year, 7 children were admitted and 8 discharged. The average number on the roll for the year was 43, and the average attendance 37, or 86.04 per cent. The attendance could have been better if we had had the co-operation of a few parents who were inclined to be slack and indifferent.

The following Table shows the mental grades of the children who were on the roll at the end of the year :—

Intelligence Quotients	70 or over.	60-69	50-59	Below 50
Number of children in each grade	5	11	27	1

The mid-day meal was supplied from a British Restaurant under the Provision of Meals arrangements. Only two children did not stay regularly for dinner in school. From September, under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme, one-third-of-a-pint of milk was provided free, daily, for each child.

There were no changes in the routine arrangements of conveyance by 'bus, bathing and treatment of minor ailments. Dr. Steel, Acting School Medical Officer, visited school frequently to carry out mental re-examinations, and the School Nurse visited once or twice each week.

We had visits from several former pupils at intervals during the year. Some of those in remunerative employment appear to be doing well, and to be holding the more or less routine jobs assigned to them in various industrial undertakings. Many of those not gainfully employed find it difficult to fill up their time, and would benefit, I feel sure, from having part of each day organised for them. I do hope that it will be found possible to do something for such children in the near future.

In concluding this short report, I should like to thank all connected with the school for their loyal co-operation.

(Signed) MARGARET A. PEACOCK."

SPEECH DEFECTS.

The Speech Training Centre re-opened in January, 1946, after the appointment of Miss Joan C. Taylor as Speech Therapist, in December, 1945.

I have pleasure in submitting a report by Miss Taylor, upon the work carried out at the Speech Training Centre during the year under review.

SPEECH CENTRE REPORT 1946.

"When many children of different ages, schools and mental capacities suffering from speech defects have to be treated in the course of a week the making up of a timetable is no easy task. After various experiments I have found the following arrangement the most satisfactory.

The children requiring treatment are divided into two groups, the actual speech defective children and the children who stammer. The latter attend the Centre once a week for three-quarters-of-an-hour in groups of not more than six. Some stammerers have individual treatment and the most severe stammerers attend the Centre twice a week.

The speech defective children come to the Centre once a week in pairs. They spend from half to three-quarters-of-an-hour at the Centre. While one child is being given treatment the other child draws, paints or practices lip exercises with the aid of a mirror. There are also two classes held once a week and each containing about ten children. These classes are for children who have rectified their speech defects but need practice to strengthen their new speech habits and children who speak badly because they have lazy organs of articulation.

The following shows the number of children treated at the Speech Centre and a chart revealing their progress :—

Total Number of Children Treated at Speech Centre 136.

Stammerers40
Speech Defects96

Total Number of Children Discharged from Speech Centre 51.

Stammerers10
Speech Defects41

CHART TO SHOW PROGRESS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE
ATTENDED THE SPEECH CENTRE.

	Stam- merers.	Speech Defects.
Normal Speech	8	29
Only slight difficulty	4	22
Improvement shown	12	20
No Speech improvement but confidence gained	6	—
No improvement apparent	8	13
Found unsuitable for treatment (Mentally retarded)	—	2
Attendance too irregular to benefit	—	7
Left School	2	3

(Signed) JOAN C. TAYLOR, L.C.S.T."

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

The Sir James Knott Memorial Nursery School at Tynemouth is flourishing and still has a considerable waiting list.

The School was visited each term by Dr. M. B. Steel (Maternity and Child Welfare Officer) and weekly by a Health Visitor.

The Howdon Road Nursery School was duly de-requisitioned by the Admiralty on 31st March 1946. The work of re-conditioning was put in hand, but unfortunately it was not found possible to have the school re-opened during the year 1946.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Statistical tables required by the Ministry of Education follow.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1946.

TABLE 1.

Medical Inspections of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(1) No. of Inspections :
 Entrants 234. Second Age Group — Third Age Group —
Total ... 234

(2) No. of other Routine Inspections : —
GRAND TOTAL ... 234

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections : 1,368

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly sub-normal)		D. (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
234	123	52.56	90	38.46	21	8.98	—	—

TABLE III.**GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).**

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment during
the year under the Authority's Scheme 956

GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
Errors of Refraction (including squint).	359
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	19
Total	378
No. of Pupils for whom Spec- tacles were	
(a) Prescribed	298
(b) Obtained	271

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment.		
Under the Authority's Scheme.	Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
278	1	279

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Dentist						
(a)	Routine Age-Groups	...	...	...	...	5,869
(b)	Specials	...	...	...	...	446
(c)	TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	...	...	...	...	6,315
(2) Number found to require treatment						
(3) Number actually treated						
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment						
(5) Half-days devoted to :—						
	Inspection	...	...	32		
	Treatment	...	...	453		
	Total	...	...	485		
(6) Fillings :—						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	920		
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	40		
	Total	...	...	960		
(7) Extractions :—						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	694		
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	3,217		
	Total	...	...	3,911		
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions						
(9) Other Operations :—						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	210		
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	11		
	Total	...	...	221		

TABLE V.

Verminous Conditions.

(i.)	Total number of examinations of pupils in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	...	...	14,622
(ii.)	Number of <i>individual</i> pupils found unclean	...	...	1,155

